

REMARKS

Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 1-5 and 14-24 will be pending in the above-identified application. Claim 1 is herein amended. New claims 15-24 have been added. It is respectfully submitted that this Amendment is fully responsive to the Office Action dated August 23, 2006

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-5 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over *Kim et al* (U.S. Pat No. 6,207,519 hereinafter “Kim”). Claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over *Kim et al.* in view of *Kim et al.* (US Pat No. 6,275,906). Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over *Kim et al.* in view of *Cheng et al* (Pub No. 2004/0266122). Claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over *Kim et al.* in view of *Hayashida et al.*, (US Pat No. 5,6903,029)

For at least the reasons discussed below, Applicants submit that the Examiner has failed to present a *prima facie* case of obviousness. However, to expedite prosecution and clarify the subject matter of the present invention, Applicants hereby amend independent claim 1 to recite that *said third impurity-diffused region is formed deeper than said second impurity-diffused region*. See claim 1. Support for this amendment is found, for example, in Fig. 1B. Accordingly, in view of this amendment and the following remarks, Applicants request that the Examiner withdraw the obviousness rejection of claim 1.

When evaluating a claim for determining obviousness, all features of the claim must be considered. Here, the cited reference fails to teach or suggest all of the features of the claims; especially *said third impurity-diffused region is formed deeper than said second impurity-diffused region*. In the cited reference discloses that the third impurity-diffused region is “the source/drain region” and the second impurity-diffused region is formed deeper than the third impurity-diffused region so as to surround the third impurity-diffused region. Whereas, in the present invention, “the second impurity-diffused region” is NOT formed as the pocket region but instead formed to suppress lateral diffusion of the third impurity-diffused region. Accordingly, the second impurity-diffused region suppresses an increase of a junction leak and a junction capacity without suppressing longitudinal diffusion.

Furthermore, in *Kim et al.*, the second impurity-diffusion region corresponding to the second impurity-diffusion region of the present invention is the “pocket region”. Therefore, it is understandable that the second impurity-diffusion region should have an impurity having conductive type opposite to that of impurities contained in the first impurity-diffused region and third impurity-diffused region. However, in the present invention, the second impurity-diffusion region does NOT have an impurity having conductivity type opposite to that of impurities contained in the first impurity-diffused region and third impurity-diffused region.

Accordingly, in view of the accompanying amendment and the above remarks, Applicants request that the Examiner withdraw the obviousness rejection of claims 1, 15, and 20.

Also, as claims 3-5, 14, 16-19 and 21-24 depend from these claims, Applicants request that the Examiner allow these claims by nature of dependency.

Conclusion

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicants submit that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP



Darin A. Auito

Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 56,024
Telephone: (202) 822-1100
Facsimile: (202) 822-1111

DAA/rf